

SENATE FLOOR VERSION

February 19, 2024

AS AMENDED

SENATE BILL NO. 1572

By: Daniels of the Senate

and

Sims of the House

An Act relating to electricians; amending 59 O.S. 2021, Sections 1682, 1686, 1688, 1689, and 1699, which relate to the Electrical License Act; modifying definition; stating qualifications for certification; providing for expiration of registration; updating statutory language; updating statutory reference; and providing an effective date.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF OKLAHOMA:

SECTION 1. AMENDATORY 59 O.S. 2021, Section 1682, is amended to read as follows:

Section 1682. A. As used in the Electrical License Act:

1. "Board" means the Construction Industries Board;

2. "Committee" means the Committee of Electrical Examiners appointed by the Board;

3. "Electrical apprentice" means any person sixteen (16) years of age or older whose principal occupation is the learning of and assisting in the installation of electrical work under the direct

1 supervision of a licensed journeyman electrician or electrical
2 contractor;

3 4. "Journeyman electrician" means any person other than an
4 electrical contractor who engages in the actual installation,
5 alteration, repair or renovation of electrical facilities or
6 electrical construction work unless specifically exempted by the
7 provisions of the Electrical License Act;

8 5. "Electrical contractor" means any person skilled in the
9 planning, superintending and practical installation of electrical
10 facilities who is familiar with the laws, rules and regulations
11 governing such work. Electrical contractor also means any
12 individual, firm, partnership, corporation, limited liability
13 company or business performing skills of an electrical contractor or
14 an electrician or the business of contracting, or furnishing labor
15 or labor and materials for the installation, repair, maintenance or
16 renovation of electrical facilities or electrical construction work
17 according to the provisions of the Electrical License Act;

18 6. "Electrical facilities" means all wiring, fixtures,
19 appurtenances and appliances for, and in connection with, a supply
20 of electricity within or adjacent to any building, structure or
21 conveyance on the premises but not including the connection with a
22 power supply meter or other power supply source;

23 7. "Category" means the classification by which licenses and
24 electrical work may be limited. Such categories shall include but

1 shall not be limited to installation, maintenance, repair,
2 alteration, residential, oilfield and commercial;

3 8. "Temporary journeyman electrician" means any person other
4 than a person permanently licensed as a journeyman electrician or
5 electrical contractor in this state who meets the temporary
6 licensure requirements of Section 1685.1 of this title;

7 9. "Variance and Appeals Board" means the Oklahoma State
8 Electrical Installation Code Variance and Appeals Board;

9 10. "Electrical construction work" means installation,
10 fabrication or assembly of equipment or systems included in
11 "premises wiring" as defined in the National Electrical Code
12 (reference 158:40-1-4. Standard of Installation), and which is
13 hereby adopted and incorporated by reference. Electrical
14 construction work includes but is not limited to installation of
15 raceway systems used for any electrical purposes, and installation
16 of field-assembled systems such as ice and snow melting, pipe-
17 tracing and manufactured wiring systems. Electrical construction
18 work shall not include in-plant work performed by employees of the
19 company owning the plant, work performed by telecommunications
20 employees for telecommunications companies or installation of
21 factory-assembled appliances or machinery which is not part of the
22 premises wiring unless wiring interconnections external to the
23 equipment are required in the field;

1 11. "Electrical work" means work consisting primarily of the
2 layout, installation, maintenance, repair, testing or replacement of
3 all or part of electrical wires, conduits, apparatus, fixtures,
4 appliances or equipment for transmitting, carrying, controlling or
5 using electricity in, on, outside or attached to a building,
6 structure, property or premises. Electrical work shall not mean
7 work that is related to or facilitates the construction,
8 installation or maintenance of all or part of an electrical system,
9 but which does not involve actual work with any of the electrical
10 components provided in this definition; and

11 12. "Student ~~electrical intern~~ apprentice" means any person
12 sixteen (16) years of age or older who complies with the
13 requirements for registration under Section 1686 of this title.

14 B. Class 2 and Class 3 circuits shall be exempt from the
15 requirements of electrical licensing of either an electrical
16 contractor or a journeyman electrician, provided the work is
17 performed in accordance with the National Fire Protection
18 Association 70 requirements for Class 2 and Class 3 circuits.

19 SECTION 2. AMENDATORY 59 O.S. 2021, Section 1686, is
20 amended to read as follows:

21 Section 1686. A. The Construction Industries Board shall, upon
22 proper application and payment of fee, register as an electrical
23 apprentice and issue a certificate of such registration to any
24

1 person who furnishes satisfactory proof to the Board that the
2 applicant is:

3 1. Sixteen (16) years of age or older; or

4 2. Enrolled in a school or federal training program for
5 electrical apprentices recognized by the Board or employed as an
6 electrical apprentice with an active licensed electrical contractor.

7 B. The Construction Industries Board shall, upon proper
8 application and payment of fee, register as a student ~~electrical~~
9 ~~intern~~ apprentice and issue a certificate of such registration to
10 any person who furnishes satisfactory proof to the Board that the
11 applicant is:

12 1. Sixteen (16) years of age or older; ~~and~~

13 2. Enrolled in high school and enrolled in a work-ready or
14 similar program ~~recognized by the Board; and~~

15 3. Employed with an active licensed electrical contractor.

16 A student apprentice may not apply more than one thousand five
17 hundred (1,500) hours toward his or her journeyman requirements.

18 C. All applications for examination, license or renewal of
19 license shall be made in writing to the Board on forms provided, if
20 necessary, by the Board. All applications shall be accompanied by
21 the appropriate fee.

22 D. Apprentices and student ~~electrical interns~~ apprentices, when
23 required by the Board, shall provide such documents, statements or
24 other information as may be necessary to submit to a national

1 criminal history record check as defined by Section 150.9 of Title
2 74 of the Oklahoma Statutes.

3 SECTION 3. AMENDATORY 59 O.S. 2021, Section 1688, is
4 amended to read as follows:

5 Section 1688. A. No license shall be issued for longer than
6 one (1) year, and all licenses shall expire on the last day in the
7 birth month of the licensee. A license may be renewed upon
8 application and payment of fees thirty (30) days preceding or
9 following the date the license is due. Licenses renewed more than
10 thirty (30) days following the date of expiration may be renewed
11 only upon application and payment of all required fees and payment
12 of any penalty for late renewal established by the Construction
13 Industries Board and upon compliance with any applicable continuing
14 education requirements established by the Board and the Electrical
15 License Act. No penalty for late renewal shall be charged to any
16 holder of a license which expires while the holder is in military
17 service, if an application for renewal is made within one (1) year
18 following the service discharge of the holder.

19 B. No journeyman or contractor license shall be renewed unless
20 the licensee has completed the required hours of continuing
21 education, as determined and approved by the Committee of Electrical
22 Examiners and approved by the Construction Industries Board.

23 C. An apprentice registration certificate or a student ~~intern~~
24 apprentice registration certificate shall be issued for one (1)

1 year, at which time the apprentice may reregister upon meeting the
2 requirements of the Construction Industries Board and paying the
3 renewal fee. A student apprentice registration expires on the last
4 day of the registrant's school year.

5 SECTION 4. AMENDATORY 59 O.S. 2021, Section 1689, is
6 amended to read as follows:

7 Section 1689. A. The Construction Industries Board or its
8 designee and the Committee of Electrical Examiners shall act as the
9 Electrical Hearing Board and shall comply with the provisions of
10 Article II of the Administrative Procedures Act, Section 308a et
11 seq. of Title 75 of the Oklahoma Statutes.

12 B. Any administrative hearing on suspensions, revocations or
13 fines shall be conducted by a hearing examiner appointed by the
14 Board. The hearing examiner's decision shall be a final decision
15 which may be appealed to a district court in accordance with the
16 Administrative Procedures Act.

17 C. The Electrical Hearing Board may, upon its own motion, and
18 shall, upon written complaint filed by any person, investigate the
19 business transactions of any electrical contractor, journeyman
20 electrician, electrical apprentice, student ~~electrical intern~~
21 apprentice or poultry house contractor license. Upon a finding by
22 clear and convincing evidence, the Board shall suspend or revoke any
23 license or registration obtained by false or fraudulent
24 representation. Upon a finding by clear and convincing evidence,

1 the Board shall also suspend or revoke any license or registration
2 for any of the following:

3 1. Making a material misstatement in the application for a
4 license or registration, or the renewal of a license or
5 registration;

6 2. Loaning or illegally using a license;

7 3. Demonstrating incompetence to act as a journeyman
8 electrician or electrical contractor;

9 4. Violating any provisions of the Electrical License Act, or
10 any rule or order prescribed by the Board or any ordinance for the
11 installation of electrical facilities made or enacted by a city or
12 town by authority of the Electrical License Act;

13 5. Willfully failing to perform normal business obligations
14 without justifiable cause; or

15 6. Failing to maintain a registration or license as required by
16 law in another state while registered in this state as a nonresident
17 contractor.

18 D. Any person whose license or registration has been revoked by
19 the Electrical Hearing Board may apply for a new license one (1)
20 year from the date of such revocation.

21 E. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, a political
22 subdivision of this state that has adopted a nationally recognized
23 electrical code and appointed an inspector pursuant to the
24 provisions of Section 1693 of this title or pursuant to the

1 provisions of the Oklahoma Inspectors Act for such work shall have
2 jurisdiction over the interpretation of the code and the
3 installation of all electrical work done in that political
4 subdivision, subject to the provisions of the Oklahoma Inspectors
5 Act. Provided, a state inspector may work directly with an
6 electrical contractor, journeyman electrician, electrical apprentice
7 or student ~~electrical intern~~ apprentice in such a locality if a
8 violation of the code creates an immediate threat to life or health.

9 F. In the case of a complaint about, investigation of or
10 inspection of any license, registration, permit or electrical work
11 in any political subdivision of this state which has not adopted a
12 nationally recognized electrical code and appointed an inspector
13 pursuant to the provisions of Section 1693 of this title or pursuant
14 to the provisions of the Oklahoma Inspectors Act for such work, the
15 Construction Industries Board shall have jurisdiction over such
16 matters.

17 G. 1. No individual, business, company, corporation,
18 association or other entity subject to the provisions of the
19 Electrical License Act shall install, modify or alter electrical
20 facilities in any incorporated area of this state which has not
21 adopted a nationally recognized electrical code and appointed an
22 inspector pursuant to the provisions of Section 1693 of this title
23 or pursuant to the provisions of the Oklahoma Inspectors Act for
24 such work without providing notice of such electrical work to the

1 Construction Industries Board. A notice form for reproduction by an
2 individual or entity required to make such notice shall be provided
3 by the Construction Industries Board upon request.

4 2. Notice to the Construction Industries Board pursuant to this
5 subsection shall not be required for electrical maintenance or
6 replacement of existing electrical appliances or fixtures or of any
7 petroleum refinery or its research facilities.

8 3. Enforcement of this subsection is authorized pursuant to the
9 Electrical License Act, or under authority granted to the
10 Construction Industries Board.

11 SECTION 5. AMENDATORY 59 O.S. 2021, Section 1699, is
12 amended to read as follows:

13 Section 1699. One student ~~electrical intern~~ apprentice is
14 allowed to work per physical job site with direct supervision under
15 a single journeyman or electrical contractor; provided, however,
16 that no such student ~~electrical intern~~ apprentice shall be counted
17 against the maximum number of apprentices who are allowed by law or
18 regulation to work under the supervision of a single journeyman or
19 contractor. A student ~~electrical intern~~ apprentice is not allowed
20 to work on high voltage systems defined by the National Electrical
21 Code.

22 SECTION 6. This act shall become effective November 1, 2024.

23 COMMITTEE REPORT BY: COMMITTEE ON BUSINESS AND COMMERCE
24 February 19, 2024 - DO PASS AS AMENDED